EAST BRIDGEWATER SCHOOL COMMUNITY MISSION STATEMENT

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o Vice-Chairperson Jennifer Kitchenham expressed a concern with accepting 14 students per grade. A motion was made by Kitchenham to amend the number of students from 14 to 8.
  Motion:  Kitchenham/seconded by none

o Secretary Elizabeth Hayes suggested amending the number from 14 students to 10 for school choice per grade.
  Motion:  Hayes/Graham
  Vote: 4 in favor,
  2 opposed: Graham, Kitchenham

The motion has passed amending the number of students accepted into school choice for FY15 from 14 slots to 10.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

• Governor Patrick has sent a letter stating that Chapter 70 aid will be raised to 100 million dollars for the state and that he is proposing no changes to Circuit Breaker.
• The budget workshop for February 1, 2014, is being postponed pending additional information that will make the workshop more productive.
• This month’s edition of Our Town pays tribute to Mollie Coyne. Mollie is an East Bridgewater student that raised $1044 in funds to purchase a vest for a state police dog. It is her personal goal to vest one dog per year.
• A thank you letter was received from Dr. Judith Riordan for naming the Performance Arts Theatre in her honor.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

• Nothing to report at this time.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS

• Action is required on the minutes from the School Committee meeting held on January 9, 2014. Minutes presented.
  Motion:  Kitchenham/Boyle
  Vote: 6 in favor

• Action is required on accounts payable warrant 32V dated 2/5/14. Warrant presented.
  Motion:  Kitchenham/Graham
  Vote: 6 in favor

• Action is required on payroll warrant 30P dated 1/22/14. Warrant presented.
  Motion:  Hayes/Boyle
  Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstention - McCabe
• Superintendent Moretti apprised the Committee of a recent audit in the number of school personnel that agreed to contribute an additional 10% toward their healthcare. This agreement will result in a town savings of $86,442.62. This year there will be a net savings of $54,692.62 due to a one-time time rebate totaling $31,750.00. A rebate in the amount of $750.00 was given to those on a family plan, $250.00 to those on an individual plan, and $1500.00 annually to those that relinquish town insurance.

• Lacrosse- Chairperson McCabe excused himself from the discussion regarding lacrosse as he is a spring coach. Superintendent Moretti stated he was not asking to take action tonight just presenting documentation and requesting a vote from the School Committee be made at the February 27th meeting. Mr. Moretti met with 3 parent representatives from the lacrosse group. At this meeting, he requested a census on how many students per grade would be interested in playing, what the current financial status of the group is, along with a commitment that they would fund the sport because the district would not be able to. Principal Vieira and Athletic Director Kenney met creating a 3-5 year roll out plan should lacrosse be approved as a sport. There was a large show of support from students and parents at the meeting and they agreed to fund the sport knowing the district's budget could not, and to work with the principal and athletic director in getting it up and running. At the next School Committee Meeting a vote will be taken on whether to add lacrosse as a sport at the Jr/Sr High School.

• Capital Improvement Requests-Superintendent of Schools John Moretti, Facilities Manager Brian Kiely, and the principals toured the Central School and Middle School to determine projects that will be put forward for consideration by the Capital Needs Committee. The following Capital Project Requests have been prepared:

1. Central Elementary School Bathroom Renovations-The bathrooms at the Central School need replacement due to corrosion along with health and safety risks.
2. Central School Mechanical/Electrical upgrades-The main electrical service is antiquated and needs to be replaced. Two low pressure steam boilers, isolation valves, boiler feed pump system, pneumatic steam valve and heat exchangers need replacing.
3. Central School boiler is antiquated with low pressure and corroded. The boiler room has flooded twice. This will be submitted to the MSBA as well at a 65% reimbursement rate.
4. Central School Ovens-Replace 2 outdated and unserviceable convection ovens to removed safety and fire hazards.
5. Middle School floor tile replacement-14,000 square feet is popped and cracked in the old part of the school; it needs to be replaced and not repaired.
6. Middle School Gymnasium- The floor has ¼” of poly build up that needs to be taken to bare wood and refinished, equipment needs to be replaced, the divider wall needs to be removed and replaced with a curtain.
7. Storage tanks-There is three underground storage tanks holding oil, 2 at the Middle School and 1 at the Central School. The schools have been burning gas the past four
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seasons. It is recommended the tanks be removed to avoid a leak.
Motion: Kitchenham/Boyle Vote: 6 in favor

- Superintendent Moretti has asked that the School Committee consider a request be made to the Capital Needs Committee to purchase textbooks thereby alleviating stress on the operational budget.
Motion: Kitchenham/Graham Vote: 6 in favor

NEW BUSINESS

- Action is required to accept a donation of $899.58 from the Community Covenant Church to the East Bridgewater Junior/Senior High School on behalf of the 2B the 1 workshop. The School Committee thanks the Community Covenant Church for this generous donation.
Motion: Kitchenham/Boyle Vote: 6 in favor

- Action is required to approve an out-of-state trip to Canobie Lake Park in Salem, New Hampshire for the band and chorus students in grades 7-12 on May 30, 2014.
Motion: Kitchenham/Hayes Vote: 6 in favor

- Route 18 crosswalk- Chairperson George McCabe discussed the lack of a cross walk on the Route 18 side of the Jr/Sr High School Building. Director of Public Works John Haines explained that the state has jurisdiction over Route 18 and suggested the Committee draft a letter to the District 5 office in Taunton expressing this concern. Additionally, he said if they could get local and legislative assistance it would help the cause.

- Foundation Reserve Application- Each year the state has an account with funds that local school districts can apply for and request monies to offset unanticipated costs through DESE. Business Manager Patricia Lugo has drafted a request of $120,000 for unanticipated special education costs for students that moved into the district.

- FY15 Information Technology Budget Presentation- Director of Technology Rob King explained his budget is smaller than in the past for three reasons:
  1. All of the technology in the new building is under warranty from 1-3 years.
  2. The Jr/Sr High School is the network center with new firewalls and security purchased with service agreements under the new building project with 3-5 year warranties.
  3. The program to refresh computers has been put on hold as we will be exploring corporate donations to fulfill this need.

This reduction is temporary and items will need to be added back in 3-5 years out.
FY15 Maintenance Department Budget Presentation- Facilities Manager Brian Kiely highlighted that from FY13 to FY14 the budget went from $575,435 to $258,500; approximately half of what it should be. Line 38 does not have an amount budgeted at this time as he is waiting for manuals from the OPM and believes he will need approximately $27,000 for this line. An increase in maintenance costs is necessary to maintain the integrity of the buildings, systems, and grounds. His total budget request at this time is $518,050.

FY15 Central Office Budget Presentation-Superintendent Moretti presented his budget for the Central Office explaining the reason for significant increases in three areas:

1. Line item #1, School Committee expenses, needs to be increased from $7,500 to $29,500 directly correlating to the search for a new superintendent. There will be advertising costs, travel costs for site visits, publications, possibly a consultant.
2. Line item #10, legal services, is $15,000 more next year to negotiate six different contracts. With a new superintendent the potential to utilize legal services will increase.
3. Line item #19, tuitions to Norfolk Aggie/Voc Schools, this could potentially be reduced based on students choosing to attend the Jr/Sr High School as opposed to going out of district.

Personnel Request- Superintendent Moretti provided the School Committee with a chart comparing staff levels from FY14 to FY15 along with a personnel history for this time frame. Changes in staffing are being recommended based on student population along with staff changes to accommodate student needs. Some changes suggested are the addition of 2- IEP coordinators, increase in Department Chairs, a confidential secretary for the IEP coordinators, a full time custodian, and movement of teachers throughout the grades as needed.

Motion to adjourn at 10:05:  Kitchenham/Boyle         Vote:  6 in favor

Respectfully submitted by,

Joanne M. Benner
Recording Clerk